

## GEN. FRENCH HAS ENTERED KIMBERLEY

The British Advance Expedition  
Forced Its Way to the  
Besieged City.

## BRILLIANT CAVALRY DASH.

General French Made Rapid March,  
Said Two Drifts and Forced  
a Passage.

LONDON, Feb. 17, 4:45 a. m.—General French, with a start of a day or two, is seemingly in full retreat from Lord Roberts, moving northward. General French, with the cavalry, simply stayed over night in Kimberley and then pushed on to get in touch with the retreating enemy. A long Boer wagon train is moving toward Bloemfontein, followed presumably by a large force of British infantry. In their hasty departure the Boers lost quantities of supplies and ammunition.

General French lost a few men only in action, but the forced marches and heat have probably made many ill. Numbers of remounts must be provided.

Lord Roberts has wrought a genuine preliminary success, and the impression is that he has done enough for the present. He will need to prepare for another strike.

All over England to-night there have been evidences of public joy. In every theatre and public meeting, around the railway stations and in the streets there have been expressions of gladness and jubilation over the news. The newspapers are editorially rejoicing.

## Only One Disturbing Factor.

Those who read the news closely see only one disturbing factor in the Cape situation, and that is the pressure of the Boers toward Lord Roberts' line of supply through De Aar, which was never more important than now. The Boers under Commandants Delany and Gohier, are making a persistent effort to penetrate to the railway. They have pushed General Clements back to Arundel and have outflanked him. All are within sixty miles, or two days' hard march of the central railway. Doubtless Lord Roberts has left considerable forces along the line and can send back more if necessary.

In the lobbies of the house last evening it was rumored that General Buller had again crossed the Tugela. A special dispatch dated two days back, and just transmitted from Chibvelly, says that an important movement was then pending there, although contrary indications are found in the fact that 750 ambulance bearers have been temporarily disbanded, and the further fact that traction engines are arriving at Durban from the front to be sent to Lord Roberts.

More artillery is being sent to Lord Roberts from Cape Town.

## RELIEF OF KIMBERLEY

By General French, Who Lost But a Few in Action and Then Pushed on After the Retreating Boers.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The following message from Lord Roberts has been received at the war office:

"JACOBDAL, Feb. 13, 2 a. m.

"French, with a force of artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry, reached Kimberley this evening (Thursday).

"RIET RIVER, Orange Free State, Feb. 14.—General French, in command of the cavalry division and with a strong force of horse artillery, left Modder river Sunday morning for Ramabam, twelve miles east of Enslin, where the whole division concentrated. The next day he made a rapid march to Riet river, where a party of Boers contested his passage at Dekel and Waterfall drifts. After some hours' shelling Gen. French drove the Boers away and crossed the river.

Yesterday the column continued its march to Klip and Rondavels drifts, on the Modder river, where again a short engagement ensued. General French shelling the Boers vigorously and forcing a passage. The Boers precipitately retired, leaving five laagers in the hands of the British, besides a great quantity of cattle and 2,000 sheep.

The rapidity of General French's march and the overwhelming nature of his force enabled him, in spite of the difficulties of water transportation, to outwit and surprise the Boers. The British casualties were slight.

## General Roberts' Dispatch.

LONDON, Feb. 16, 9:30 p. m.—The following dispatch from General Roberts fills the gaps in the earlier dispatches:

"MODDER RIVER, Feb. 14.—The sixth division left Waterfall drift early Tuesday morning and marched here, ending on the same evening at Bloemfontein. Drift to hold the crossing of the Modder river and leave General French free to act.

"Shortly after arriving here the mounted infantry visited Jacobdal and found it full of women and children, with four of our wounded men, doing well.

"On the way back, the mounted infantry were attacked and nine men were wounded. Colonel Henry and Major Hatchell and ten men were missing. Both officers were subsequently found at Jacobdal, slightly wounded.

"The cavalry division is moving in a northerly direction and has apparently already reduced the pressure on Kimberley, as Kerkewich signals the enemy has abandoned Alexanderfontein and that he has occupied it.

"French has advanced as far as

Abonadom with a slight loss and is pushing on the posts, his rear being held by mounted infantry.

"Clements, having been pressed by the Boers, has retired to Arundel to cover Nansuport.

"The war office points out that the word 'here' in the above dispatch means some point on the Modder other than the Modder river station.

Jacobdal Occupied by British.

OUTSIDE OF JACOBDAL, Orange Free State, Thursday, Feb. 15.—Jacobdal is now in possession of the British. Yesterday a small cavalry patrol entered the place and found it full of wounded, including several British from Rensberg. The place was only occupied by a small force which fell back before the patrol, after a series of small skirmishes. A battery of artillery shelled the environs and drove out the last of the Boers.

Early this morning a large force of Boers from Colesburg, with ten guns, attacked a convoy of 200 wagons at the Riet river, shelling vigorously and doing damage. But strong reinforcements have been sent hence and it is hoped they will bring in the whole convoy in safety.

General French's division entered three drifts on the Modder river.

At the third drift the Boers were fairly strongly entrenched. General French bombarded them and drove them off. To-day he moved rapidly in the direction of Kimberley.

The Boers have left Alexanderfontein, which the British now occupy.

General Roberts is in excellent health and spirits. The hardships and rapid marching appear to agree with the whole army, who are in splendid spirits under the leadership of 'Bobs.'

## Kimberley Cheerful.

LONDON, Feb. 16, 7:44 p. m.—The war office makes public a dispatch from Field Marshal Lord Roberts, saying:

"JACOBDAL, Feb. 14.—The following from General French was received this morning:

"I have completely dispersed the enemy from the southern side of Kimberley from Alexanderfontein to Ophantfontein and am now going to occupy their ground. Have captured the enemy's laagers and store depot supplies and ammunition. Casualties amount to twenty of all ranks wounded."

## BRILLIANT BANQUET

At the National Capital in Honor of West Virginia Congressional Delegation—Eloquent Speeches by Brainerd Men.

SPECIAL DISPATCH to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The reception and banquet tendered to-night at Willard's hotel by the West Virginia Republicans in honor of the West Virginia Congressional delegation in Congress was a great success. About two hundred people sat at the table, though not all were citizens of the state represented by the association. Stirring speeches were made by the toastmaster, General Van H. Bukey, Senators Scott and Watkins, Representative Lacy, of Iowa; Representative George A. Pearce, of Maryland; Representatives Dwyer and Dayton, Captain T. H. McKee and Hon. T. W. Cridler. Representative Pearce's toast was "President McKinley—One Good Term Deserves Another."

He made a brilliant response, as did Representative Lacy, whose toast was "The House of Representatives."

All the speakers were emphatic in the expression of favor of expansion and in the support of the administration in its present attitude on our new possessions.

## THE "LOUD" BILL

Favorable Action by House Committee—One Cent Per Pound for Newspapers and Periodicals, but Provision is Made Against Books and Reprints.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The bill generally known as the "loud bill," relating to second class mail matter, was favorably acted on by the house committee on postoffices to-day. As finally agreed on a uniform rate of 1 cent per pound is fixed, the proposed clause making the rate 2 cents in case of extreme distance being omitted. The inalienable matter of this class is to include all newspapers and periodicals, publications issued at stated intervals and as frequently as four times a year, but provision is made against books and reprints purporting to be issued periodically. A new provision as to sample copies is made, allowing such copies up to 50 per cent of the bona-fide subscription list, and not above 500 of any one issue. In other respects the original form of the bill is preserved.

## CLARK INVESTIGATION TAME.

Only Relieved by Personal Tilts Between Hartman and Cooper.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The proceedings in the Clark case to-day did not reach the high point of interest attained yesterday. The principal witness of the day was Mr. Walter Cooper, one of Mr. Clark's managers in the campaign. He is a resident of ex-Representative Hartman's home town, Boseman, and the personal tilts between the two served to relieve what would have otherwise been a rather commonplace story. Mr. Faulkner sought in behalf of Senator Clark to re-open the question as to State Senator White's effort at bribery during his own election, but the committee adjourned for the day without deciding upon the question of relevancy.

## State Department Investigating.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The state department has taken steps to make sure of the position it has assumed to ward ex-Consul Macrum, in anticipation of an inquiry from Congress, by directing an investigation into any phase of the allegations contained in that officer's statement, including especially a thorough investigation of the conditions under which the consular mail and cable service were conducted.

## MOLINEUX SENTENCED TO DEATH.

Made a Speech, Denouncing Witnesses, Defending the Character of His Wife and

## PROTESTING HIS INNOCENCE

The Prisoner Was Taken to Sing Sing Yesterday by the Sheriff and His Deputy.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Roland B. Molineux was to-day sentenced to die in Sing Sing prison during the week of March 14 for the murder of Mrs. Katherine J. Adams.

Mr. Weeks moved for a new trial on the ground that the verdict was contrary to the law and the evidence. He read ten grounds for his application for a new trial, basing them chiefly on the legal exceptions taken to the evidence and the rulings of the recorder.

As soon as he handed in his exceptions, Mr. Weeks asked that the defendant be permitted to speak in his own behalf. To this Recorder Goff at first demurred, saying that the request was unusual, but finally, after some discussion with Mr. Weeks, ruled that Molineux might be heard.

## Speaks in His Own Behalf.

Molineux straightened himself up and began:

"I thank your honor. Of the crime for which I stand convicted and for still another crime with which I am charged, I am absolutely and entirely innocent. All of the evidence—"

The Court—"You are not charged with any other crime."

The Defendant—"I suppose that I might refer to it since the district attorney did in his opening and closing argument."

The Court—"Your counsel has attended to all of that matter."

The Defendant—"Very well, your honor. All of the evidence produced here does not point in the direction of guilt on my part. I refer especially to the evidence of Miss Miller in regard to the purchase of that silver bottle holder; she did not sell it to me. Also, to the evidence of Mr. Koch, respecting the letter box hired by a somebody in the name of Harry Cornish—it was not hired by me. Also, to the evidence given by Mr. Kuntow respecting sample boxes sent around the country by his firm—none of which came to me. Nor did I possess at any time any of the instruments which appear to have been used in this crime, and I never for one moment had a murderous motive. As for the theories which the prosecution offers, I don't think I should be convicted upon their suppositions or the guesses they may wish to indulge in. I cannot conceive, your honor, how any honest man can believe the testimony of Nicholas Heckmann, who convicted me upon an identification which was for sale. Yellow journalism put a price upon my head."

"It was an invitation to every blackmailer, every perjurer, every rogue, every man without principle, but with a price, and to that invitation Mr. Heckmann responded. The handwriting experts who have testified against me, your honor, may give their opinion; they may give their reasons, but I know that these hands never put pen to paper to address that poison package or to write the disputed letters."

"Your honor will not permit us to make mention of the great injustice which is a matter of history, but expressed in handwriting have made mistakes before and they have repeated it here."

"Your honor, all this is nothing to what is in my heart at this moment. Above and beyond everything else I denounce and despise the action of the district attorney in attempting to vilify and attack the character of the pure and lovely woman who bears my name. It was the act of a blackguard. It was a damnable lie. Now, your honor, I am prepared to hear you sentence me. I am not afraid, because I am not guilty."

Directly after sentence had been pronounced Molineux was taken back on his way to the toms. Almost before he had left the court room, Mr. Battle served notice of appeal upon District Attorney Gardner and upon the chief clerk.

## TAKEN TO SING SING.

Even There He Preserved His Wonderful Nerve.

SING SING, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Roland B. Molineux is now in a condemned cell in the murderer's row at Sing Sing prison, having arrived here this afternoon. There was a curious crowd about the station. Molineux appeared cool and did not seem to notice the crowd. He was at once taken to the death house, where he took leave of his father, his brother and Lawyer Battle, who had accompanied him from New York. He maintained his wonderful nerve and shook hands with each and in parting with his father, said:

"Good-by, Governor."

General Molineux bore up bravely, but showed that he was passing through a fearful ordeal.

## Getting After Polygamists.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The house committee on election of President and vice president, to-day submitted a report in favor of a joint resolution for a constitutional amendment, disqualifying polygamists for election as senators or representatives in Congress and prohibiting polygamy and polygamous association between the sexes.

## THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK

Generally Favorable, Though Labor Troubles May Have a Depressing Effect, Especially in the Building Trades—Important Results May Spring From the Battle of Steel Giants—Iron Output Exceeds Demand—Wheat, Corn and Cotton Are Higher.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade will say to-morrow:

Business continues larger than ever at this season in amount of payments, and, on the whole, as large as ever in retail deliveries, though new transactions do not yet give assurance that it will hold at the same rate. Conditions affecting new orders and contracts have changed in some respects most favorably, while other changes tend to restrict operations for a time, but a conservative judgment of the conflicting tendencies appears to warrant strong hope.

Important branches of business are hindered by labor troubles, of which the building trade strikes at Chicago affects the greatest number of contracts for industrial products and the labor and wages of the greatest number of men. Circumstances do not yet promise its speedy ending, and in some other branches of industry prosperity and advancing prices seem to have rendered controversies more frequent. But in other branches, declining prices, or such decrease of orders as may lead to stoppage of works, have an opposite tendency.

The rise in cotton to 5½ cents has caused such increase in receipts and in purchases for export that reaction would ordinarily follow. Goods have been further advanced, and it does not appear the demand for them has been strengthened. Between positive assertions that stocks in the country have been exhausted or in a few days will be, and equally positive assertions that heavy receipts will continue, buying of cotton by spinners and goods by dealers naturally hesitates.

The rise in wheat also brings out larger western receipts, in two weeks 5,444,292 bushels against 5,285,165 last year. At Atlantic exports, four included, in the same weeks have increased by 3,645,18 bushels, against 6,192,407 last year. The price closed 4½ higher for the week. Corn exports of 3,241,000 bushels, against 1,877,415 for the same weeks last year, seem to justify the rise of 1 cent, as western receipts fall a little below last year's, in two weeks, 11,035,973 bushels against 12,038,793 last year.

## Battle of the Steel Giants.

The suit of Mr. Frick against the Carnegie company, to obtain an accounting and settlement discloses enormous profits made when prices of steel products doubled last year, but when peace was kept by the gigantic iron and steel combinations. That results of great importance may spring from a contest affecting the control of so many iron works is evident. The new sheet company has united ownership of 190 mills, it is said, but four widely known concerns controlling sixty-five mills refused to join. Prices of pig-iron have not changed, though considerable sales, including some for export, are reported, but the excess of supply over demand, which appeared in January, is increased by the starting of a new furnace with a capacity of 600 tons daily. A sale is reported of 10,000,000 pounds Calumet and Heckla copper to consumers of the Naugatuck Valley at 16 cents.

Heavy sales of sole leather at Boston, exceeding 100,000 sides, at reduction of ¼ cent in price, with unusually large sales of hides at Chicago, also at lower prices, indicate that the dealers and consumers who have looked for cheaper boots and shoes may be satisfied. Heavy imports of hides at New York have some influence, and are in part due to the famine in India. Shipments of shoes since February 1, have been 38,000 cases, or nearly 30 per cent larger than in the two weeks of any other year, but many of the works are nearly out of orders.

Wool sales at three eastern markets have only been 12,134,456 pounds in two weeks against 12,365,300 last year. The interior still believes in a further advance, but buying of wool on sheep backs has stopped, and the manufacturer has made it clear that the mills hold large stocks, to fill recent orders. Cancellations became so numerous as to cause some uneasiness, but as yet only help mills which have taken more orders than they can fill.

Failures for two weeks have been \$5,357,170; manufacturing \$2,356,283; and trading \$2,569,600.

Failures for the week have been 218 in the United States against 178 last year, and 43 in Canada against 18 last year.

## MANNINGTON

To Welcome Admiral Dewey on His Way to Wheeling.

SPECIAL DISPATCH to the Intelligencer.

MANNINGTON, W. Va., Feb. 16.—It is now an assured fact that only one opportunity will be afforded for the people of this section of the state to see Admiral Dewey outside of Wheeling, and that will be at Mannington. Mayor Christy received a telegram this morning from the admiral, saying that he would appear upon the car platform as requested.

A meeting of representative citizens was held at the high school building to-night, at which a reception committee, consisting of Capt. A. N. Pritchard, E. J. Joliffe, Charles W. Robinson, E. J. Thomas, Dr. J. N. Devore and C. Burt, was appointed. These men will meet the admiral in Gratton, and one of them will introduce him to the people here. Committees on decoration, fireworks, lighting, etc., were also appointed—in fact, arrangements worthy of such an occasion. Between five and ten thousand people will probably greet the nation's hero when the train pulls in at 8:40 p. m.

## REVIEW OF SOUTHWEST OIL FIELDS.

There is an Increased Demand for Pennsylvania Oil Over Lima Oil—The Outlook is

## FOR BIG DOINGS IN LEWIS

County, This State, When the Roads Will Allow the Shipping of Material to the Front.

But few important changes are to be noted in the field situation this week. The petroleum industry from every standpoint presents the most bullish features, and if nothing material comes to pass in field developments to change present conditions a better market may be looked for in the near future. The wildcat explorations in Kentucky and Tennessee are turning out unsuccessful, but little hope is entertained by the trade of a new development being opened up in either of these states.

A peculiar feature has of late marked the trend of events to which special attention is called, and this is the shifting of the bulk of shipments from Lima oil to the Pennsylvania product. For many months in the past the shipments of Lima oil far exceeded the shipments of Pennsylvania oil, and the stocks of the latter were steadily increased. But for some reason not apparent to the average oil man, these conditions have been reversed and now the shipments of Pennsylvania oil not only exceed Trenton rock, but they are far above the runs, and instead of the stocks being increased they are materially reduced. It must not be understood that while the stocks of Pennsylvania oil are being depleted, that the demand for Lima oil is below the production, for such is not the case, if the figures of the pipe lines handling Trenton rock oil are to be relied upon. The reports show that the consumption and production of Lima oil are about a stand-off, and if anything, the shipments exceed the runs, so in drawing conclusions the stocks of both Pennsylvania and Lima oil are being drawn upon.

As outlined in the review last week, Wolf Summit is not maintaining the high record established some time ago, as the drill in the past week has not recorded the most brilliant work. While the new pool has never been responsible for the production of big wells or gushers, the fact has been remarkable for its many good wells, and the small percentage of failures for the number of wells drilled. The wells have until recently been uniformly large producers, or what are considered large producers in this latter day development, but this week a radical change is to be noted, and where good sized wells were confidently looked for only light producers were found. This seems to indicate that a continuation of territory that will produce big wells cannot be reasonably looked for, and unless the drill discovers something new beyond present defined lines, Wolf Summit has reached the zenith of its glory.

## Northeast Extension.

The northeastern extension of the Wolf Summit has proven the most prolific part of the pool, and the wells in this quarter coming in light this week has occasioned no little surprise and comment. And in view of the outlook for change in developments it is not likely that production will reach the high mark that many thought it would only a week or so ago. This unexpected change is most forcibly illustrated by a comparison of the Southern Oil Company's No. 4, located on the J. C. Smith farm, which was completed a month or so ago. Their first well on this farm came in at 230 barrels a day, while No. 4 did only twelve or fifteen barrels a day on the start-off. This is indeed a big falling off, and indicates that the northeastern extension has about reached the jump-off place, to use the parlance of the oil fraternity. To still further confirm the correctness of this diagnosis of the situation in the northeastern extension, the South Penn Oil Company has just completed their No. 3, F. W. Smith farm, in the same locality, which will not make better than a five or eight barrel producer, which is an official report from the pipe line company. There are several other wells drilling in this part of the pool, which when completed will definitely settle the question of the northeastern extension.

This week the South Penn Oil Company were again in good luck, finding a 120 barrel well to the north of Wolf Summit, and located upon the T. H. Williamson farm. In this latitude of the pool some very fine wells have been found, and according to the pipe line reports at this writing, there are a dozen or more wells that have a record of one hundred barrels a day to their credit. Operations in the Wolf Summit pool for the past few days have been retarded on account of a shortage of gas, but this will be of short duration.

## A Wilson Run Gusher.

Since the Carter Oil Company struck their big well on the Day farm, in the Wilson Run territory, Washington county, there is a revival of activity, and quite a number of new wells have been started. The gusher started off at over 600 barrels a day, and a special last night from the well says it is still making a production of 350 barrels a day. This same company has just completed their test well on the Masters farm, fully one-half mile to the east from the Wilson Run development, and found only a ten barrel well. This is a very important test venture, as it is found here in the Big Injun formation, investing the territory in the immediate vicinity with more than usual interest.

While it is not a gusher and will require a long time to pay back the money invested in finding it, the well will undoubtedly lead to considerable new work, with the chances of developing some of the producers, and the opening up of a new pool of some consequence, at least this is the view taken by those who have made heavy investments in this territory.

In the Jackson Ridge developments, Monroe county, there have been no new lines developed and operations are still confined to old territory. The most important event in this pool for some time is the completion of a test well by Thompson & Company, located on the Morris farm. This venture, like all the other wells, is a Keener sander, and from the latest advice it will make an eighteen barrel producer. It has opened up some new territory that has long been regarded as doubtful, and for this reason has never been developed or tested. The wells in this pool are noted for their staying qualities and as properties are rated high.

The Fisher Oil Company has completed a well in this pool this week, which will make a twelve or fifteen barrel producer. The Southern Oil Company, too, were in luck this week at Jackson Ridge, having scored a twenty barrel well on the Ripley farm. This company, in partnership with Longhollow Bros., just finished up a test in this pool on the Albert Cronin property, which resulted in a full-fledged gusher.

While drilling in the old Mackeburg field, or late has not proven a paying investment, and nearly all of the test wells drilled here for some time were failures. The latest acquisition to this list is the venture drilled by J. S. Dunn located upon the Mobay farm.

Developments in the Cadis pool this week are unimportant, and about the only thing of special note is the Brick-er Oil Company's No. 1, which has finally resulted in a thirty barrel well after a short. This venture is located about one-quarter of a mile from their No. 3 on the same farm, and when drilled it showed up very light, and but little hope is entertained of it ever making a producer. Resulting as it has, some little new territory is opened up which will soon be drilled. Box Hog, who gained an unenviable reputation in the Seio field, completed a forty barrel well this week on his own farm, which is the best producer the Seio pool has been credited within months.

## The Shallow Sanders.

The shallow sand development in Pleasantts county, West Virginia, is still to the front, and is keeping up its high record for good wells. This week Elsworth & Company tested No. 2 on the Wagner farm, and the first lay made a production of fifty barrels. A well this week on the Higgins farm, near Precotton, in the Gordon sand, started off at 140 barrels a day, and indicates that the good territory lies in a southwest line from the initial well of the pool. This is certainly an important find, and will unquestionably lead to considerable new work. A 140 barrel well in the Gordon formation is a sure find, especially in new territory and is therefore important.

The good results expected to materialize this week in Greene county, Pa., failed to connect and nearly all the wells completed were disappointments. The trade should not lose sight of the developments in Lewis county, W. Va. Preparations are being made for an aggressive campaign by a number of companies and individual operators as soon as better weather and roads prevail. Here there are two formations, the Big Injun and the salt sand, both of which have proven productive, but as yet no great results have been obtained. The developments on the Taylor farm by the Siles Bros. in the salt sand, have so far proven successful—more so than the work on the big Camden tract. A number of the best posted and wealthiest operators are interested here and believe that this territory will yet surprise the trade.

Neither Flat Run nor Campbell's run produced anything this week out of the ordinary. The late gusher at Campbell's run is holding up remarkably well. One or two ordinary pumps were completed, while as many light wells evened up honors.

## HEAD-END COLLISION

Near Monongahela—Two Engines and Several Cars Wrecked.

SPECIAL DISPATCH to the Intelligencer.

FAIRBANKS, W. Va., Feb. 16.—A most disastrous head-end collision took place this morning about 9 o'clock, between two freight trains on the Monongahela River railroad, near Monongahela. The trainmen saved themselves by jumping. The two engines and a number of cars were badly wrecked. The track is blocked, and all trains are being transferred.

## CAN WHEELING SECURE THE CONVENTION?

This is the Question That Will be Discussed by Chamber of Commerce Committee.

## REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL

Committee, at Its Meeting Here, Will Select Time and Place for Two State Conventions.

Next Monday evening at the rooms of the chamber of commerce, Hub building, there will be a meeting of the committee appointed some time ago by the chamber to exert itself to secure for Wheeling the 1900 state nominating convention of the Republican party in West Virginia. The call was issued last night by Chairman John Waterhouse, of the committee. The committee met with disappointment in its effort to bag the Democratic gathering, but the fact that Parkersburg got that party's convention ought to increase this city's chances for the Republican gathering. Wheeling has not had a Republican state nominating convention since Governor Boreman was nominated here in the 'sixties, and surely the party can afford to favor the largest and best convention city in the state on this occasion, especially as Ohio county is now one of the banner Republican counties in the state, having been wrested from the Democracy in the glorious victory of 1894, and held by four-figure majorities in the campaigns of '96 and '98.

The committee desires the co-operation and suggestions of Major W. J. W. Cowden, this senatorial district's member of the Republican state central committee, and he is requested to attend Monday evening's meeting. At this meeting the committee will select the spokesman who will present Wheeling's claims and invitation to the Republican committee, and possibly take steps to learn in advance how much money the hotel men and other business people will subscribe to the convention fund. The Parkersburg committee has already moved along this line, and each of the hotels there subscribed \$200, it is said.

The meeting of the Republican state central committee here on Wednesday, February 21, will be an occasion that will attract nearly every party leader in the state. Senators Elkins and Scott, Representatives Dwyer, Freer and Dayton, Hon. A. H. White, Governor Atkinson, Secretary of State W. M. O. Dawson, District Attorney Gaines, Marshal John K. Thompson, General Currier and scores of other leading party men have arranged for accommodations at the McLeure, where the committee will hold its session at 8 p. m. Wednesday. In addition to selecting the time and place for the state nominating convention, the committee also will fix the time and place for the state convention at which to select the delegates at large to the national Republican nominating convention. All of the visitors will remain over next day ("Dewey Day") to participate in the big celebration.

Great interest continues to be manifested in the ward and district club organizations of the Republicans of the county. In addition to the call for the meeting of Island Republicans noted elsewhere, the Centre district club will reorganize at a meeting to be held Monday evening at Hartman's hall, corner Twenty-second and Market streets, and the Webster district club meets this evening at the Pythian Castle, corner of Twenty-seventh and Chapline streets. The Elm Grove Republicans are to meet next Tuesday evening to reorganize. It is hoped there will be a good attendance at each of these meetings. The work of preparing for the campaign cannot be started too soon. Each club will elect officers and select delegates and alternates to the state league convention, to be held at Parkersburg, March 8.

## CROOKS ARE COMING

To Wheeling for "Dewey Day," in Anticipation of a Rich Harvest. Chief Clemens Authorized to Engage Additional Officers.

Precautionary measures against the influx of crooks that will come with the "Dewey Day" celebration were taken last night by the council committee on police, which empowered Mayor Sweeney and Chief Clemens to hire as many special officers as they see fit for next week's big affair. Already the light-armed gentry have begun to put in an appearance, and it is urgent that there be sufficient and it is urgent that there be sufficient police protection for all parts of the city, since the parade will cause many homes to be depleted of their inmates for the time being. There is a certain class of thieves that makes the round of all cities having public demonstrations, and all eyes are on Wheeling for its "Dewey Day." Chief Clemens stated last night that he hoped people would exercise vigilance next Thursday in looking their homes when out.

The following clipping from yesterday's Pittsburgh Times is significant as showing that Chief Clemens' forecast is timely: "Detectives Thomas A. McQuade and William Elmore yesterday arrested as suspicious persons, two men, who gave their names as John and Frank Williams and their home as Philadelphia. They said they were on their way to Wheeling to attend the Dewey celebration there this month. Superintendent Roger O'Mara, of the

## IN WHICH IT WAS CLAIMED THAT NORTHERN SOLDIERS CLAMORED FOR PENSIONS WHILE SOUTHERN SOLDIERS DID NOT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The house to-day indulged in its annual joke by striking from the legislative appropriation bill all provision for the civil service commission. This action is taken each year in committee of the whole where the members don't go on record, and the provision is then invariably restored when the bill gets back in the house, where members have to respond to their names upon a roll call.

## PENSION QUESTION DISCUSSED.

Most of the time of the house to-day, beyond that occupied in the discussion of the civil service law, was devoted to attacks upon the speech made by Mr. Sims (Dem. Tenn.), on Wednesday, in which he furnished some figures from the pension office, showing the number of applications for pensions filed by soldiers of the volunteer regiments engaged in the Spanish war to show that the northern soldiers were much more clamorous in that regard than the southern soldiers, and attributing this to the debauching of public sentiment in the north over the pension question. Mr. Pearce (Rep. Md.), raised the storm by a reference to those figures and the statement that hundreds of Massachusetts soldiers who never mailed powder had applied for pensions. This brought out an indignant reply from Mr. Fitzgerald (Dem. Mass.), who detailed the record of the Massachusetts volunteers in the late war. He was followed by others who defended the records of the soldiers from their several states. Mr. Hapburn, Iowa, vigorously assailed Mr. Sims. Considerable temper was shown.

## Not Concurred In.